

In the Claims

1. (currently amended) A screw for medical purposes comprising:
a screw body made of a biodegradable material and configured as an interference screw for anchoring a transplant in an opening in a bone having,
a head portion having a facial end face,
a shaft portion extending from said head portion from an end opposite to said facial end face along an axial direction of said screw body,
a threading provided on an outer side of said shaft portion, and
at least one axially extending groove cut into an outer side of said screw body, said at least one groove extending along said head portion and an entire length of said shaft portion, said at least one groove being provided for inserting a drive element of a driving tool therein.
2. (currently amended) The screw of claim 1, wherein a depth of said at least one axially extending groove is such that said drive element of said driving tool lies within said at least one axially extending groove and does not extend beyond an outer periphery of said screw body.
3. (currently amended) The screw of claim 1, wherein said a depth of said at least one axially extending groove is such that said drive element of said driving tool is housed within said axially extending groove without extending radially beyond said threading of said shaft portion.
4. (original) The screw of claim 1, wherein at least one recess is provided in said facial end face of said head portion, a corresponding projection on said tool can be introduced into said recess for centering said tool on said screw.

5. (original) The screw of claim 4, wherein said recess is configured as a channel completely passing through said screw body.

6. (original) The screw of claim 1, wherein several axially extending grooves are provided to be distributed uniformly about a circumference of said screw body.

7. (original) The screw of claim 6, wherein up to five axial extending grooves are cut into said outer side of said screw body.

8. (original) The screw of claim 1, wherein said at least one axially extending groove is open axially at said facial end face end of said head portion.

9. (currently amended) The screw of claim 8, wherein a bridge is provided for bridging said at least one axially extending groove in a circumferential direction.

10. (original) The screw of claim 9, wherein said bridge is provided in said head portion of said screw body.

11. (original) The screw of claim 1, wherein a bridge is provided for bridging said at least one axially extending groove in an circumferential direction of said screw body, said bridge is formed by said outer threading of said shaft portion.

12. (canceled)

13. (canceled)

14. (currently amended) The screw of claim 13, wherein said transplant is selected from the group consisting of: a tendon, and a ligament, and combinations thereof.

15. (previously withdrawn)

16. (previously withdrawn)

17. (previously withdrawn)

18. (previously withdrawn)

19. (previously withdrawn)

20. (new) An interference screw made of a biodegradable material for anchoring a transplant in an opening in a bone comprising:

a head having an end face;

a shaft extending from said head from an end opposite to said end face along an axial direction perpendicular to said head portion, said shaft tapering from said head portion to the end opposite to said end face;

a threading provided on an outer surface of said shaft; and

at least one axially extending groove cut into and extending along an outer side of said head and an entire length of said shaft, said at least one groove being provided for inserting a drive element of a driving tool therein.

all